

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 00459 121239Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /054 W
-----121250Z 017094 /43

R 121215Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2126

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 0459

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, VT, MT

SUBJ: APPOINTMENT OF NEW BRITISH DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER TO
MALTA - ROBERT MICHAEL PURCELL

FROM AMBASSADOR LODGE'S OFFICE

REF: VALLETTA 1404

1. ROBERT MICHAEL PURCELL, THE COUNSELLOR OF THE BRITISH LEGATION TO THE HOLY SEE HAS BEEN APPOINTED DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER TO MALTA. PURCELL DEPARTED ROME IN LATE DECEMBER AND TOLD US THAT HE WOULD BE ARRIVING IN VALLETTA BY MID-JANUARY, FOLLOWING CONSULTATION IN LONDON. HE HAS BEEN COUNSELLOR HERE FOR THREE AND A HALF YEARS AND IS WELL KNOWN TO US. HE IS A SOLID PERFORMER, FRIENDLY IN HIS CONTACTS WITH US AND WIDELY RESPECTED AMONG HIS PEERS IN THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS TO THE VATICAN. IN VIEW OF UPCOMING BRITISH WITHDRAWAL FROM MALTA IN MARCH 1979, PRIOR SERVICE IN SINGAPORE AND UGANDA DURING PROCESS OF BRITISH WITHDRAWALS PROBABLY ACCOUNTS FOR HIS SELECTION FOR MALTA ASSIGNMENT.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ROME 00459 121239Z

2. PURCELL, WHO IS 47 YEARS OLD, HAS A WIFE (JULIA), AND TWO YOUNG DAUGHTERS. FORMERLY IN THE COLONIAL SERVICE, HE WAS INTEGRATED IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE ABOUT 1963 AND HAS HAD THE FOLLOWING PREVIOUS ASSIGNMENTS: UGANDA, 1950-62 AS DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER, SRI LANKA, 1968-1969, SINGAPORE, 1971-73 AND VATICAN, 1973-76.

3. WITH RESPECT TO DEPARTURE FROM MALTA OF HIS PREDECESSOR,
ARTHUR WYATT (REFTEL), MR. PURCELL TOLD US THAT AN UNGUARDED
COMMENT AT SOCIAL FUNCTION RE DON MINTOFF, WHICH WAS PROBABLY
REPORTED TO THE GOM BY ONE OF HIS MANY "SPIES," HAD CREATED
DIFFICULTIES FOR WYATT TO CONDUCT OFFICIAL BUSINESS AND HMG
DECIDED TO REASSIGN HIM.VOLPE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ROME00459
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770011-1004
Format: TEL
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770159/aaaabzfo.tel
Line Count: 68
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f85570da-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 VALLETTA 1404
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3615007
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: APPOINTMENT OF NEW BRITISH DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER TO MALTA - ROBERT MICHAEL PURCELL FROM AMBASSADOR LODGE'S OFFICE
TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, VT, MT, (PURCELL, ROBERT MICHAEL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f85570da-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009